

Message Text

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73

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 OMB-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /122 W

----- 129252

R 201501Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9912

INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

USLO PEKING

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E O 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, XA, CH, IC

SUBJ: RELATIONS WITH PZDNG; PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY'S PRESS
CONFERENCE IN YAOUNDE AUGUST 15

REF: ABIDJAN 6063 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO FRATERNITY MATIN, SOLE LOCAL NEWSPAPER WHICH IS RUN
BY SOLE POLITICAL PARTY IN IVORY COAST, PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY
GAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE IN YAOUNDE ON AUGUST 15 EN ROUTE BACK HERE
FROM OCAM CONFERENCE IN BANGUI. DURING THE COURSE OF THAT CONFER-
ENCE HE WAS ASKED THE FOLLOWING QUESTION: "IVORY COAST IS ONE OF
THE RARE AFRICAN COUNTRIES WHICH HAS NOT YET RECOGNIZED COMMUNIST
CHINA. CAN YOU GIVE US YOUR EXACT POSITION VIS-A-VIS THIS COUNTRY?"
THE PRESIDENT REPLIED, "I HAVE NOT YET RECOGNIZED COMMUNIST CHINA,
I AM NOT THE ONLY ONE, MY TURN WILL COME, IT IS A BIG COUNTRY

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THAT NO ONE CAN IGNORE. A DAY WILL COME WHEN WE SHALL NORMALIZE

OUR RELATIONS WITH PEKING, BUT FOR THE MOMENT WE ARE AMONG THOSE WHO HAVE NOT YET RECOGNIZED IT BUT WE SHALL SURELY RECOGNIZE IT ONE DAY."

2. COMMENT: THIS CAREFULLY COUCHED REPLY, GIVEN TO THE PRESS IN A COUNTRY THAT ITSELF HAS RELATIONS WITH PEKING, DOES NOT CHANGE BASIC CONCLUSIONS REFTEL, ALTHOUGH IT IMPLIES DAY FOR CHANGE MAY BE CLOSER THAN END OF HOUPHOUET'S PRESIDENCY.
SMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 20 AUG 1974
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740229-0651
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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